

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF TEXAS  
DALLAS DIVISION

**ALVIN ALEXANDER RUSSELL,**  
**764277,**

Petitioner,

v.

**RICK THALER, Director,**  
**Texas Department of Criminal Justice,**

Respondent.

§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§  
§

Civil Action No. **3:10-CV-435-L**

**ORDER**

Before the court is Petitioner Alvin Alexander Russell's ("Petitioner") Petition for Writ of Habeas Corpus, filed January 28, 2010, pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2254. The case was referred to Magistrate Judge Paul D. Stickney, who entered Findings, Conclusions and Recommendation of the United States Magistrate Judge ("Report") on July 20, 2012, recommending that the action be transferred to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit pursuant to *In re Epps*, 127 F.3d 364, 365 (5th Cir. 1997). Petitioner did not file objections to the Report; however, in response to the Director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's objection that this court does not have subject matter jurisdiction over Russell's successive habeas petition, Petition stated that if he is required to obtain permission from the Fifth Circuit before filing a successive habeas petition, he would like to withdraw his habeas petition until he obtains the requisite authorization (Doc. 9.)

Having reviewed the pleadings, file, and record in this case, and the findings and conclusions of the magistrate judge, the court determines that the findings and conclusions of the magistrate judge are correct, and **accepts** them as those of the court. Rather than permitting Petitioner to

withdraw his petition, the court **directs** the clerk of the court to **transfer** this action to the United States Court of Appeals for the Fifth Circuit.

Considering the record in this case and pursuant to Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 22(b), Rule 11(a) of the Rules Governing §§ 2254 and 2255 proceedings, and 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c), the court **denies** a certificate of appealability.\* The court determines that Petitioner has failed to show: (1) that reasonable jurists would find this court’s “assessment of the constitutional claims debatable or wrong;” or (2) that reasonable jurists would find “it debatable whether the petition states a valid claim of the denial of a constitutional right” and “debatable whether [this court] was correct in its procedural ruling.” *Slack v. McDaniel*, 529 U.S. 473, 484 (2000). In support of this determination, the court accepts and incorporates by reference the magistrate judge’s report filed in this case. In the event that Petitioner files a notice of appeal, he must pay the \$455 appellate filing fee or submit a motion to proceed *in forma pauperis* (“IFP”), unless he has been granted IFP status by the district court.

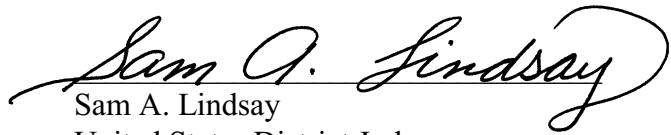
---

\*Rule 11 of the Rules Governing §§ 2254 and 2255 Cases provides as follows:

(a) **Certificate of Appealability.** The district court must issue or deny a certificate of appealability when it enters a final order adverse to the applicant. Before entering the final order, the court may direct the parties to submit arguments on whether a certificate should issue. If the court issues a certificate, the court must state the specific issue or issues that satisfy the showing required by 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(2). If the court denies a certificate, the parties may not appeal the denial but may seek a certificate from the court of appeals under Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 22. A motion to reconsider a denial does not extend the time to appeal.

(b) **Time to Appeal.** Federal Rule of Appellate Procedure 4(a) governs the time to appeal an order entered under these rules. A timely notice of appeal must be filed even if the district court issues a certificate of appealability.

**It is so ordered** this 8th day of August, 2012.

  
Sam A. Lindsay  
United States District Judge